

Planning Commission Minutes

Thursday, December 15, 2022 - 7:00 PM

Old Academy Building
315 Main Street
Odessa, DE

Those present at 7:00 pm

- Carole Coleman
- Connie Miller
- David Sydnor
- Tom Carle
- Amanda Russell
- Ed Pollard (advisor)

Also Attending: Harvey C. Smith, Jr. - Mayor
Amy Ottinger - Town Secretary
2 Town Residents

I. Meeting called to order - 7:01 pm

At the last Town Council meeting, Amanda Russell was appointed to the Planning Commission to fill Amy Ottinger's vacant position. Amanda Russell will also act as the Planning Commission secretary.

II. Approval of Minutes

MOTIONED BY DAVID SYDNOR, SECONDED BY CONNIE MILLER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 17, 2022 AS WRITTEN.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

III. New Business None

- ### **IV. Old Business - Continued Update to Comprehensive Plan**
- Archeological Concerns: Chairwoman Coleman provided an update on her exchanges with John Bansch of the Historical Odessa Foundation. They are going to touch base again soon regarding the archeological concerns.
 - Shade Tree Concerns: Chairwoman Coleman Mel Minear of the Shade Tree Commission has been working with DNREC, Quentin Schlieder, and Carlton of

the Historic Preservation Office on the Osbourne Street Property. She also presented Chairwoman Coleman with a copy of Odessa's tree canopy report.

- ZOAR Church Property: There have been some concerns about the diamond-shaped property that belongs to ZOAR Church on Osbourne Street. Mel Minear is working with the State to secure a historical marker. Mayor Smith said that Zoar Church is also working on the same mission. He will connect Carlton of the Historic Preservation Office with Zoar Church.
- Historical Preservation: David Sydnor reported that he has been researching how the state could help with historical preservation work but is running into a lot of dead ends. We need to secure volunteers for archeological work, particularly in the form of a ground-penetrating scanner. Chairwoman Coleman will discuss this with John Bansch of the Historic Odessa Foundation.
- PLUS Updates:
 - The commissioners discussed Former Governor Minner's language in *Better Models for Development in Delaware* and how it applies to the language we are using in the comprehensive plan.
 - Amy Ottinger reported that she has been working with the state and secured the updated maps that were requested at the PLUS meeting.
 - Chairwoman Coleman noted that she will reach out to Mel Minear for a written shade tree commission plan and will also work on a written archeological plan.
 - Chairwoman Coleman and Mel Minear are meeting with Claire Quinlan of DNREC on January 9th and she will update the commission at the next meeting.

V. Adjournment

VI. Next Meeting: January 19, 2023 at 7:00 pm

**MOTION TO ADJOURN BY DAVID SYDNOR, SECONDED BY CONNIE MILLER
AT 7:32 PM.**

MOTION CARRIED. VOTED 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN.